

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 21797 281634Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 281620Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4234

S E C R E T CAIRO 21797

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG
SUBJECT: BOUTROS GHALI ON PUTATIVE ISRAELI VISITORS

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 13468, (B) CAIRO 21692

1. DCM PASSED INFO IN REF A TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS GHALI, SAYING THAT GOI WISHED TO HAVE EGYPTIAN REACTION TO ISRAELI PROPOSALS IN PARA 2 REF A. BOUTROS GHALI'S RESPONSE WAS THAT THE TWO ACTIONS GOI PROPOSED TAKING WERE ENTIRELY UP TO ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO COMMENT ON THEM. BOUTROS GHALI REITERATED THAT HIS CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR REPORTED IN REF B WAS INTENDED TO AVOID HAVING ISRAELIS ARRIVE AT CAIRO AIRPORT WITHOUT VISAS. ISRAELIS WHO WISH TO COME TO EGYPT WOULD BE WELCOME PROVIDED THEY HAVE OBTAINED VISAS IN ADVANCE FROM EGYPTIAN CONSULATES. IF ON THE OTHER HAND GOI WISHED TO IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBER OF ISRAELIS COMING TO EGYPT, THAT WAS ENTIRELY UP TO IT.

2. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM DIRECTOR OF EGYPTIAN INFORMATION SERVICE MOURSI SAAD EL DIN THAT THERE ARE CURRENTLY SIX ISRAELI JOURNALISTS IN TOWN. WE PRESUME THAT ALL
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HAVE EGYPTIAN VISAS, BUT DO NOT KNOW FOR SURE.

3. FROM EMBASSY'S STANDPOINT, WE THINK ACTIONS PROPOSED IN PARA 2 REF A MAKE SENSE, BUT BOUTROS GHALI OBVIOUSLY DID NOT WANT TO TAKE A POSITION ON MATTERS WITHIN GOI'S OWN COMPETENCE. HE OBVIOUSLY HAD NO OBJECTION TO THESE ACTIONS, THOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY SO. EILTS

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NNN

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